

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) Inspecting system for thin security supports, of the type wherein a transportation device is apt to transport said thin support past an image acquiring device, wherein said transportation device is a rotating cylinder (10) provided with transparent sectors (10a, 10b) of a size at least equal to that of the portion of the security support to be inspected and wherein a transparency inspecting device is placed partially inside and partially outside the cylinder so that the electromagnetic inspecting beam is intercepted by said supports held lying onto said transparent sectors, characterised in that said transportation cylinder comprises a gripping system for said security support having a pivoting gripping element (11) cooperating with at least a radially movable block (12), the gripping point of , the security support being able to be lowered relative to the nominal rotational diameter thereof so as not to interfere with calibration blades (13) fixedly placed in proximity of the inspection axis and strictly adjacent to said rotating cylinder.

16. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 15, wherein said transparent sectors are covered, on the security support bearing side, by a thin removable transparent protective layer.

17. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claims 15, wherein an optical path is defined between an illuminating device (3) of said inspecting system and an acquisition camera, said path comprising lens (21) which focuses the light source onto a focal point (F), through which said thin security support is made to pass as a target, along the optical path at or upstream of said lens (21) shading means (22) being provided apt to define a cone of shade (5) only in correspondence of sensitive elements of said camera (5).

18. (previously presented) (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 17, wherein said shading means (5) is a semitransparent material layer due to which, in the absence of a target to be inspected, said camera (5) does not exceed the saturation threshold which would otherwise corrupt the quality of the image.

19. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 18, wherein said semitransparent material is easily replaceable.

20. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 18, wherein said semitransparent material, in the absence of a target, allows the camera at most to reach but not exceed the saturation threshold.

21. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 17, wherein said shading means is so transparent and sized as not to absorb more than 10% of the light intensity hitting the target.

22. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 17, wherein said illuminating device has reflecting surfaces at its side ends.

23-28. (canceled)

29. (previously presented) Inspecting system as in claim 19, wherein said semitransparent material, in the absence of a target, allows the camera at most to reach but not exceed the saturation threshold.

30. (canceled)